

NJDOT Bureau of Research
QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

Project Title:	<i>The Location of Highway Ramps and Schools to Address P.L. 2007, chapter 308 (Assembly Bill 856).</i>		
RFP NUMBER: 6921766	NJDOT RESEARCH PROJECT MANAGER: Stefanie Potapa		
TASK ORDER NUMBER:: 1	PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Christopher Lamm		
Project Starting Date: Original Project Ending Date: 2/27/2009 Modified Completion Date: 8/31/2009	Period Starting Date: 04/1/2009 Period Ending Date: 06/31/2009		

Task	% of Total	% of Task this quarter	% of Task to date	% of Total Complete
1. Research Plan	2	0	100	2
2. Literature Review.	13	0	100	13
3. Data Collection	10	0	100	10
4. Data Reduction and Analysis	25	10	100	25
5. Report Findings.	16	33	66	11
6. Meetings and Presentations	18	40	90	16.2
7. Implementation	16	50	55	8.8
TOTAL	100%			86.0

Project Objectives:

The objectives of this project are to:

1. Investigate state-of-the-practice strategies employed in the United States to improve pedestrian and bicyclist safety near schools and highway ramps.
2. Determine the extent to which highway ramps pose a threat to the safety of people who commute by bicycle or walking to school throughout New Jersey
3. Identify three representative “problem schools” in New Jersey and investigate the issues afflicting those schools in detail.
4. Develop mitigation strategies and a plan to implement them.

Project Abstract:

For the New Jersey Department of Transportation (DOT), Cambridge Systematics is researching the extent of problems posed by highway ramps to pedestrian safety near schools in New Jersey, and mitigation strategies that should be considered when addressing existing issues and potential future ramps. Accident data and interviews with school administrators will be used to identify specific problem areas in the State. This research will draw on best practices of other states and highlight, through case studies of specific interchanges, the specific means by which certain strategies may be implemented in New Jersey.

1. Progress this quarter by task:

- ♦ Task 1: Task complete, no new progress.
- ♦ Task 2: Task complete, no new progress.
- ♦ Task 3: Task complete, no new progress.
- ♦ Task 4: Additional analysis conducted to account for 18 year-olds.
- ♦ Task 5: Summary tech memo prepared for Tasks 3 and 4, School selection methodology memo and checklist prepared to summarize Task 7. These will function as chapters in the final report.
- ♦ Task 6: CS met with NJDOT on 4/24/2009 and again on 6/11/2009. We have exceeded the number of budgeted meetings, although a need for one to two additional meetings likely exists.
- ♦ Task 7: CS identified 25 “problem schools,” worked with NJDOT to select three schools for closer examination, received and analyzed police reports, developed a checklist for characteristics and “things to look for” during field visits, conducted the field visits, and began analysis and mitigation measures development.

2. Proposed activities for next quarter by task

Task 1: Task complete, no new progress anticipated.

Task 2: Task complete, no new progress anticipated.

Task 3: Task complete, no new progress anticipated.

Task 4: Task complete, no new progress anticipated.

Task 5: A memo summarizing Task 7 in full will be prepared. All memos will be incorporated into a final report document and edited to fit into a single document.

Task 6: Additional project meetings will be conducted on an as-needed basis.

Task 7: Mitigation strategies for the three selected schools will be developed, as well as a “toolbox” of strategies applicable to other sites.

3. List of deliverables provided in this quarter by task (product date)

Task 7: Methodology memo for Task 7.

Task 7: Field visit checklist.

4. Progress on Implementation and Training Activities

The Implementation Task has been the focus of activities this quarter. The team engaged in a process to select three representative schools for analysis, set parameters for information/data to be collected during field visits, and conducted field visits at the three schools. Work has begun on identifying mitigation strategies. Next quarter, the strategies will be identified, a toolbox of strategies applicable to other sites will be produced.

5. Problems/Proposed Solutions

The field visits were slow to get started, however, were completed more quickly than expected once begun. Delays in procuring information, data, and school participation have strained the schedule of the project, but issues have been resolved as they have become apparent.

Total Project Budget	\$64,498
Modified Contract Amount:	\$64,498
Total Project Expenditure to date	\$57,352
% of Total Project Budget Expended	88.9%